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**LYNDA HOPKINS**

FIFTH DISTRICT SUPERVISOR

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POSTAL REGULATORY  
COMMISSION

August 15, 2017

Postmaster General Megan J. Brennan  
United States Postal Service  
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 10804  
Washington, DC 20260-3500

Kenneth E. Richardson  
901 New York Avenue  
NW Tower, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20268  
Via US Mail and Email: [richardsonke@prc.gov](mailto:richardsonke@prc.gov)

Re: Rio Nido Post Office, Rio Nido CA 95471  
Docket No. A2017-2

Postmaster Brennan and Mr. Richardson:

Having recently received various additional documents relating to the above Rio Nido Post Office closure, I would appreciate your accepting the following comments.

I have reviewed the Chairman's Information Request No. 1 in the above matter and I find the Responses of the United States Postal Service to Questions 1-4 of the Chairman's Information Request No. 1 submitted by Chief Counsel Anthony F. Alverno both inadequate and unpersuasive.

Particularly telling is that one central delivery point would be sufficient to serve Rio Nido. Concerns about flooding in Rio Nido are no different than conditions throughout much of the Russian River valley in this area. Downtown Guerneville, where the United States Postal Service ("Service") proposes to move Rio Nido boxes, is more prone to flooding than is Rio Nido.

The same is true for the references to topography, narrow roads and seasonal road conditions. FedEx, UPS, Pacific Gas & Electric, Comcast and AT&T wireless providers, and local propane delivery and garbage collection vehicles traverse Rio Nido roads daily with large vehicles to deliver packages and provide services.

While the Service is correct that they do not provide delivery service to Rio Nido residents in Zip Code 95471, it does provide delivery service to Rio Nido residents in Zip Code 95446.



Additionally, the statement that the Guerneville Post Office now provides 24-hour access to post office boxes is incorrect as of this writing.

Home delivery to Rio Nido rural residents is an appropriate, necessary, and feasible measure to institute upon closure of the Rio Nido retail contract post office.

Thank you for your careful consideration of these factual issues.

Best regards,

Lynda Hopkins  
Supervisor, Fifth District

cc: Honorable Jared Huffman  
Jenny Callaway, District Director to Congressman Huffman